to China after a brief visit to France, where he was sympathetically received by M. Clemenceau.

He reached Shanghai at an opportune moment. Serious friction had developed between General Li Yuan-hung and Huang Hsing, and the revolutionists could not reach a definite decision as to which should be Generalissimo. A self-constituted revolutionaly caucus which called itself the National Council, had established itself at Nanking, But there was no leadership. Most of the political and diplomatic work was being done by former officials and diplomats like Wu Ting-fang, Wang Chung-hui, and Chang Chien, who were not members of the *Tung Meng Hui.* The actual revolution was to all intents and purposes, over, ''bar the shouting," and the appointment of Yuan Shih-kai as President of the new Republic was regarded as inevitable, but none of the Republican leaders or spokesmen was willing to take the Provisional Presidency of the Provisional Government.

The best solution, as Dr. Sun had gained considerable notoriety abroad, appeared to be to offer him the position. He was elected to the office by the National Council, on December 28,1911, and reached Nanking, and assumed the Provisional Presidency on January i, 1912. In his oath of office he swore

to achieve the overthrow of the Manchu Govern-
ment, and that when the Republic had been estab-
lished and recognized, he would relinquish the
office of Provisional President.

A Manifesto denouncing the alleged shortcomings-
of the Manchus, and promising reforms, was issued
in his name the following day, followed, on January